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Date

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Laurie Lamoureux

 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Bran Ferren, Edward K.Y. Jung and Clarence T. Tegreene

Application No. : 10/802,106

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TITLE : EMBEDDED IDENTIFIERS

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Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to substantive examination of the above-identified patent application, please amend the application as follows:

In the Specification:

On Page 5, at line 29, please amend the paragraph as follows:

Another embodiment according to the invention, shown in FIG. 2 is a method of identifying the item described in connection with FIGS. 1A and 1B. The embodiment includes detecting the three-dimensional configuration or configurations 108 with a penetrating imaging tool, the detecting resulting in an output (step 202), and reading the identifying information by interpreting the output (step 204). Step 204 may be performed by a person or mechanically, electronically, or computationally. In one example, the output may include a series of numbers or other identifying elements that, alone, may not provide usable information to a user. However, applying an algorithm to the sequence of elements may provide the desired